

Remarks & Arguments

In the Office Action, the Examiner noted that Claims 1-20 are pending in the application, and that Claims 1-20 are rejected. By this amendment, Claims 1-20 have been canceled without prejudice, and Claims 21-40 have been added. Thus, Claims 21-40 are pending in the application. The amendments to the claims do not add new matter to the application. The Examiner's rejections are traversed below.

Double Patenting

Claims 1-3, 6-8, 11-13, 16 and 19 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obvious-type double patenting. The rejection has been rendered moot as a result of cancellation of Claims 1-3, 6-8, 11-13, 16 and 19.

Rejections Under 35 USC 112

Claims 2, 5, 15 and 20 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. The rejection has been rendered moot as a result of the cancellation of Claims 2, 5, 15 and 20.

Rejections Under 35 USC 102 and 103

Claims 1-4 and 6-9 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b). The rejection has been rendered moot as a result of the cancellation of Claims 1-3 and 6-8.

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Claims 11-13 and 16-18 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a). The rejection has been rendered moot as a result of the cancellation of Claims 11-13 and 16-18.

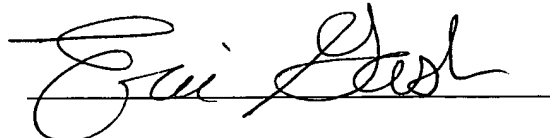
Conclusion

For all the reasons advanced above, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance and that action is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, which may be required for this amendment, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account 23-0085. In the event that an extension of time is required, or may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account 23-0085.

Respectfully submitted,

WAGNER, MURABITO & HAO, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric J. Gash", written over a horizontal line.

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Dated: June 10, 2004